Claims

1. A method for controlling a network station (20) in a network of a first type from a network station (11) in a network of a second type, a network connection unit (14) being provided for the connection of the two networks, the network connection unit (14) performing a direct conversion of the control commands in the format of the network of the second type into the corresponding format of the network of the first type if the device to be controlled in the network of the first type has a corresponding functionality,
wherein the network connection unit (14) performs an indirect conversion of the control commands if the device to be controlled in the network of the first type does not have a corresponding functionality, in such a way that a check is made to determine whether a data connection to a further network station (19) which has a corresponding functionality is present for the network station (20) to be controlled, and, if so, that the control command is converted into the corresponding format and is transmitted to the further network station (19).

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, it being the case that, if the further network station (20) does not have the corresponding functionality, a check is made to determine whether a data connection to a third network station (22) which has a corresponding functionality is set up for the further network station (20), and, if so, that the control command is converted into the corresponding format of the third network station (22) and is transmitted to the third network station (22).

3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, the network station (20) to be controlled in the network of the first type being a display device and the control

device (11) in the network of the second type being a TV set.

4. The method as claimed in claim 3, it being the case that, upon arrival of a control command with regard to the program setting, a check is made by the network connection unit (14) to determine whether the display device (20) maintains a data connection set up to a tuner device (19), and, if so, that the control command is converted into the matching format of the tuner device (19) and is transmitted to the tuner device (19).

5. The method as claimed in claim 2, it being the case that, upon arrival of a control command with regard to the volume setting, a check is made by the network connection unit (14) to determine whether the display device (20) maintains a data connection set up to a video data source device (19), and, if so, whether a data connection to an audio device (22) is furthermore set up for the video data source device (19), and, if so, that the control command with regard to the volume setting is converted into the matching format of the audio device (22) and is transmitted to the audio device (22).

6. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, the network of the first type being a network based on the HAVi Standard, where HAVi stands for Home Audio/Video interoperability.

7. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, the network of the second type being a network based on the Internet Protocol, in particular UPnP, where UPnP stands for Universal Plug and Play.

8. The method as claimed in either of claims 6 and 7, the control command for program setting being converted

into the HAVi command Tuner::SelectService of a tuner FCM, where FCM stands for Functional Component Module.

9. The method as claimed in one of claims 6 to 8, the control command for volume setting being converted into the HAVi command Amplifier::SetVolume of an amplifier FCM.

10. A connection unit for the connection of a network of a first type to a network of a second type, having conversion means for the direct conversion of control commands of one network type into the format of the other network type, **wherein** the connection unit (14) has further conversion means for the indirect conversion of control commands, which are activated if the device (20) to be controlled in the network of the first type does not have the functionality corresponding to the control command, the further conversion means checking whether a data connection to a further network station (19) which has a corresponding functionality is present for the network station (20) to be controlled, and, if so, that they convert the control command into the corresponding format for the further network station (19) and transmit it to the further network station (19).

11. The connection unit as claimed in claim 10, it being the case that, if the further network station (20) does not have the corresponding functionality, the further conversion means check whether a data connection to a third network station (22) which has a corresponding functionality is set up for the further network station (20), and, if so, that they convert the control command into the corresponding format of the third network station (22) and transmit it to the third network station (22).

12. The connection unit as claimed in claim 10 or 11, it being the case that, upon arrival of a control command with regard to the program setting from a TV set (11) in the network of the second type, the further conversion means check whether the display device (20) in the network of the first type to which the control command is directed maintains a data connection set up to a tuner device (19), and, if so, that they convert the control command into the matching format of the tuner device (19) and transmit it to the tuner device (19).

13. The connection unit as claimed in one of claims 10 to 12, it being the case that, upon arrival of a control command with regard to the volume setting, the further conversion means check whether the display device (20) maintains a data connection set up to a video data source device (19), and, if so, whether a data connection to an audio device (22) is furthermore set up for the video data source device (19), and, if so, convert the control command with regard to the volume setting into the matching format of the audio device (22) and transmit it to the audio device (22).

14. The connection unit as claimed in one of the preceding claims 10 to 13, it being designed for the connection of a network based on the HAVi standard, where HAVi stands for Home Audio/Video interoperability, to a network based on the Internet Protocol, in particular UPnP, where UPnP stands for Universal Plug and Play.

15. The connection unit as claimed in claim 14, the further conversion means being designed such that they convert the control command for program setting into the HAVi command Tuner::SelectService of a tuner FCM, where FCM stands for Functional Component Module.

16. The connection unit as claimed in claim 14 or 15, the further conversion means being designed such that they convert the control command for volume setting into the HAVi command Amplifier::SetVolume of an amplifier FCM.